

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI
OXFORD DIVISION**

JAMES KEEL

PETITIONER

v.

No. 3:21-cv-00226-GHD-JMV

MISSISSIPPI DEPT. OF CORRECTIONS, ET A

RESPONDENT

**ORDER GRANTING PETITIONER'S MOTION
TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS* AND
DIRECTING STATE TO RESPOND**

James Keel has filed a petition for a writ of *habeas corpus* under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 and seeks to proceed *in forma pauperis*. It is **ORDERED**:

1. That the petitioner's application for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* is **GRANTED**.
2. No later than February 12, 2022, the respondent, through Lynn Fitch, the Attorney General of the State of Mississippi, must file an answer to this petition, along with full transcripts of all proceedings in the state courts of Mississippi regarding computation of the petitioner's sentence, imposed in the Circuit Court of Yalobusha County, Mississippi (to the extent such transcripts are relevant to the State's response).
3. Within 14 days of service upon him of a copy of respondent's answer, petitioner may file his traverse or reply to the allegations contained in such answer.
4. The clerk of this court will serve by email (Return Receipt, High Importance) a copy of the petition, this order, acknowledgment of service of process form, and any other initial filings, upon Lynn Fitch, Attorney General of the State of Mississippi, or her lawful successor, to Assistant Attorneys General Jerrolyn Owens and Bridgette Grant. The respondent must electronically file the completed acknowledgment of service of process form upon receipt.

Petitioner is warned that failure to keep this court informed of his current address could also lead to dismissal of his lawsuit.

SO ORDERED, this, the 29th day of November, 2021.

/s/ Jane M. Virden
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE